

NICU Disease Process Map

D.O.B._08/25/202	APGAR at birth: ____6____
Gestational Age_38weeks 2 days	Adjusted Gestational Age__38 weeks 3 days
Birthweight_8__lbs._1.5__oz./____3670____grams	
Current weight_8__lbs._1.5__oz./____3670____grams	

Disease Name: Bilateral cleft lip & total cleft palate with respiratory distress syndrome

What is happening in the body?

Respiratory distress was likely from the cleft lip and palate, disrupting the normal airway. This then increases the work of breathing and the risk of aspiration and obstruction.



What am I going to see during my assessment?

Visible cleft lip, irritability, possible intubation, tachypnea, decreased oxygen saturation levels, nasal flaring, possible cyanosis, apneic episodes, secretions, poor feeding/ sucking



What tests and labs will be ordered?

Chest X-ray, arterial blood gases, pulse ox, blood glucose, electrolytes, CBC, echocardiogram



What trends and findings are expected?

Possible hypoxia, respiratory acidosis, low oxygen saturation levels, low blood glucose, electrolyte imbalance, chest x-ray showing possible fluid and edema



What medications and nursing interventions/treatments will you anticipate?

IV fluids- D10 with heparin, prophylactic antibiotics, oxygen, ventilation, sedation, analgesics, suctioning, NG/OG tube



How will you know your patient is improving?

Requiring less oxygen, showing less work of breathing, clear lung sounds, less secretions, able to be consoled, more effective feeding, stable vital signs



What are risk factors for the diagnosis?

Aspiration, airway obstruction, hypoxia, pneumonia, poor suction/ feeding, dehydration, sepsis, speech delays later on



What are the long-term complications?

Respiratory infections, feeding difficulties leading to failure to thrive, delayed speech development, self-conscious, dental issues



What patient teaching for management and/or prevention can the nurse do?

Proper suctioning, proper positioning to prevent aspiration, signs and symptoms of respiratory distress, special nipples for the baby, support groups/ resources

